

No. 5293	號三十九百二千五第	日五念月九年戌甲治同	HONGKONG, TUESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 1874.	二年禮	號三月一十英	港香	「PRICE 2½ PER MONTH.
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NOTICE.

ANY CLAIMS against the British Ship *BEZMAH*, must be sent in to the Under-Secretary for Colonies, on or before the 1st day of December, 1874, after which date they will not be recognized.

S. S. GLENFALLOCH, FROM LONDON-SINGAPORE, &c.

ALL CLAIMS against the Under-Secretary for Colonies, must be sent in to the Under-Secretary for Colonies, on or before the 1st day of December, 1874, after which date they will not be recognized.

GILMAN & Co.,
104-107-108 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

In the Goods of LOUIS GUYARD VAS-SALLO, Deceased.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to send in Particulars of same to the Under-Secretary for Colonies, on or before the 1st day of December, 1874, after which date they will not be recognized.

And all Persons being indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate Payment.

J. FAIRBAIRN,
Administrator.
14 1777 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having CLAIMS against the Estate of the late Captain JOHN C. FINE, are requested to send in Particulars of same to the Under-Secretary for Colonies, on or before the 1st day of December, 1874, after which date they will not be recognized.

And all Persons being indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate Payment.

JOHN S. JARVIS,
Administrator.
1772 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

GABRIEL DUBOIS, Deceased.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to send in Particulars of same to the Under-Secretary for Colonies, on or before the 1st day of December, 1874, after which date they will not be recognized.

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ED. CHAPPEL,
Administrator.
1m 1759 Hongkong, 24th October, 1874.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1874.

When the question whether Mr. RYAN's protest should be placed upon the minutes was being discussed at the recent meeting of the Legislative Council, the Hon. Mr. RYAN pertinently observed that it appeared the only way to deal with the matter would be another memorial to the Secretary of State.

He brought forward upon an evil which is becoming daily more, palpable in the Colony, and is causing a great deal of well-founded public discontent. From an unwillingness to accept responsibility, the Governor has, upon several important occasions, shut up to the public the ordinary sources of redress. In the cruiser question and in the matter of the Fire Ball and Police during the typhoon, this course of action has been most noticeably adopted. Both were matters eminently fitted for settlement in the Colony, and such as the Secretary for the Colonies should not have been troubled with, until at all events every effort at adjusting them locally, had been exhausted.

The refusal to publish the decision of the Commission with reference to the cruisers and the very unsatisfactory reply which was made to the questions concerning the conduct of the Superintendent of Police on the night of the typhoon, have made it necessary to refer both these matters home, and it may certainly be supposed that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will scarcely be very much pleased at finding himself called upon to decide matters of this kind, and in fact to do the work which the Governor of the Colony is paid to perform.

No doubt in regard to a place of this kind very similar instructions to those notoriously given at the Foreign office to Ministers and Chiefs of Affairs are conveyed to the Governor. They are in substance: "You gentlemen abroad must be especially careful to avoid trouble and complications. In fact you must bear in mind that as a rule we do not want to hear from you." No doubt it is somewhat difficult to set up to these instructions, and a certain amount of hesitation may be considered excusable on the part of those who have to carry them out. But a policy of complete laissez faire is not the way to attain this end, even so far as it is attainable at all; and it is unfortunately the undeniable fact that the Policy of Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY has been almost undeniably that of never acting when it is possible to avoid doing so.

The result of this is that whenever any important question arises, it gets referred home either in the form of a protest or a memorial to the Secretary of State, with the natural result that all public measures of importance are delayed till action becomes needlessly difficult if not impossible, and the public are made to feel in a very pointed manner that their means of obtaining redress or having their interests properly upheld, are unjustly limited, and that in a large number of cases they are practically unobtainable. Certainly the worst way to govern a Colony is by means of public meetings and memorials to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but this is what matters are rapidly drifting to. Nothing can tend more to arouse an undesirable antagonism between the public and the Government than the habitual refusal of constitutional and reasonable means of redress. In this case immediately under notice, it would have been easy and politic to have acceded to the request first of the Hon. Mr. RYAN, and afterwards of the community that an enquiry into Mr. DEANE's conduct should be made, and it is to be carefully borne in mind that this was all that was asked. It was surely a reasonable request, and the only wonder is if some form of reprimand had been given. But when the Head of the Executive is found at once taking the part of the Captain Superintendent to the extent of shielding him from enquiry, it is natural that a very strong feeling should be engendered on the subject, and, if the second demand, that, namely, of the fire ball, be allowed by the Government to rest where it is at present, it will not be surprising if the suggestion of the Hon. Mr.

Rowett as to another public meeting and another memorial be carried out. It would be wise for the Government to steer clear of this, as if there be a meeting on the subject we suspect the voice of the public, even in Hongkong, will be heard in a way which will perhaps somewhat surprise the local authorities, who have so comfortably a manner of slurring over all difficulties. It is undeniable that great discontent has been universally expressed at the absence of both the Governor and the Colonial Secretary from the town on the night of the typhoon, and the idea has naturally arisen that the execution of Mr. DEANE amounted also to an occupation of higher officials for not performing their duties on the occasion. We do not say that this surmise is necessarily well founded, but it is undoubtedly one which is found to arise under existing circumstances—and one which will unquestionably be very keenly discussed, if the public be driven in this case to what seems to be the only means of redress at the present time—a public meeting. It is unfortunately obvious that, as matters stand, Mr. DEANE can make the excuse that, had either the Governor or the Colonial Secretary been accessible, he would have referred to him, and while this is the fact it is especially aggravating and irritating to the public to find an obstinate refusal on the part of the Government—evidently to investigate the matter. However ingeniously the question may be thought to have been put aside, it may be taken as certain that the Hon. Government, so soon as the matter reaches them, will demand the fullest explanation as to what the various officials in the Colony were doing on the night in question; and unless we are very much mistaken, will be little satisfied that an investigation has been refused into a matter which clearly called for an enquiry.

JOHN S. JARVIS,
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ED. CHAPPEL,
Administrator.
1m 1759 Hongkong, 24th October, 1874.

The steamship *Maesia* and *Mongol* went round to the Aberdeen Docks yesterday.

We are happy to announce that telegraphic communication with Shanghai is re-established.

We hear that the P. & O. steamer *Delany* with the next English mail, was to leave Singapore yesterday.

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BEFORE THE HON. C. MAY.

LABOURER.

Mak Ahn, a carpenter, charged one Wong Ahn, a fisherman, with stealing a large piece of wood.

Complainant said he came from Canton to break up a wrecked junk and take up the stock. The defendant picked up a piece of wood 12 feet long and walked away with it. He carried it a distance of four or six changes. He went after him and stopped him.

The defendant said he picked up the wood in the water and did not know to whom it belonged. He did not believe that it belonged to the complainant.

Sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

STEALING CLOTHING.

Mak Ohn Shing, a coolie, was charged by a woman, To Akeh, with stealing clothing.

The complainant said she was a woman of 30, and had some clothing hanging out of her window up stairs to dry. She went to take them in, when two jacks fell down and she saw the defendant pick them up. She called out to him to bring the things back and gave the alarm. The defendant was stopped by the police.

The defendant said he heard a noise coming from his window and saw the defendant run down the street, pursued by two men. He gave chase and caught him. He saw him throw down the jacks.

The defendant, who said he was passing and saw the clothes on the ground and simply picked them up, was sent to six weeks' hard labour.

STEALING MEAT.

The defendant, a coolie, charged Li To Ho, a godown owner, with stealing a piece of meat.

The complainant said he was a godown owner and had a piece of meat hanging out of his window. He went to take it in, when he saw the defendant pick it up. He called out to him to bring the meat back and gave the alarm. The defendant was stopped by the police.

The defendant said he heard a noise coming from his window and saw the defendant run down the street, pursued by two men. He gave chase and caught him. He saw him throw down the meat.

The defendant, who said he was passing and saw the meat on the ground and simply picked it up, was sent to six weeks' hard labour.

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The complainant said he was a godown owner and had a piece of meat hanging out of his window. He went to take it in, when he saw the defendant pick it up. He called out to him to bring the meat back and gave the alarm. The defendant was stopped by the police.

The defendant said he heard a noise coming from his window and saw the defendant run down the street, pursued by two men. He gave chase and caught him. He saw him throw down the meat.

The defendant, who said he was passing and saw the meat on the ground and simply picked it up, was sent to six weeks' hard labour.

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